

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00
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SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 AF-10
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O R 101911Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0078
INFO EC COLLECTIVE
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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USEEC ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, EEC, GW, LE, XF
SUBJECT: US-EC PRESIDENCY DIALOG: POLITICAL DIRECTOR'S
MEETING, BREMEN, JULY 6-7

REFERENCE: BREMEN 410

1. THE FOREIGN OFFICE (DIRECTOR FOR EUROPEAN POLITICAL
COOPERATION STABREIT) BRIEFED US TODAY (JULY 10) ON THE
DISCUSSIONS HELD BY THE FOREIGN MINISTERS AND THE
POLITICAL DIRECTORS AT THE BREMEN EC SUMMIT. OUR
ATTEMPTS TO GET A READ-OUT ON THE SCENE AT BREMEN HAD
BEEN FRUSTRATED BY THE GERMAN DELEGATION'S INABILITY
TO BREAK AWAY FROM THEIR TASKS OF PREPARING AND
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TRANSLATING THE TEXT OF THE PRESIDENCY'S CONCLUSIONS
PRESENTED BY CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT ON THE AFTERNOON OF
JULY 7.

2. STABREIT HAD LITTLE TO OFFER ON THE SUBSTANCE OF
THE FOREIGN MINISTERS PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS. HE TOLD
US THE FOREIGN MINISTERS HAD AGREED IN ADVANCE THAT

THEIR MEETINGS WOULD BE INFORMAL AND THAT ALL THEIR DISCUSSIONS ON POLITICAL COOPERATION WOULD BE OFF THE RECORD. ACCORDINGLY, OUTSIDE OF NOTES TAKEN BY THE MINISTERS THEMSELVES, THERE IS NO RECORD OF THEIR TALKS (OTHER THAN THE PUBLIC STATEMENT ON LEBANON ISSUED ON JULY 6 -- SEE REFTEL).

3. THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS THEMSELVES, WE ARE TOLD, SPENT THE ENTIRETY OF THE FIRST DAY'S SESSION PREPARING THE MINISTERS' STATEMENT ON LEBANON. ONLY AFTER IT HAD BEEN DISPOSED OF, ON THE EVENING OF JULY 6, DID THEY TURN TO OTHER SUBJECTS. ALTHOUGH THERE WAS

SOME DISCUSSION OF THE MIDDLE EAST (SEE SEPTEL), THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS FOCUSED THEIR ATTENTION ON HOW THEY WOULD DEAL IN FUTURE SESSIONS WITH THE TOPIC OF AFRICA.

4. IT WAS AGREED THAT AFRICA WAS BECOMING INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT TO ALL OF THE NINE AND CONSENSUS WAS REACHED THAT AFRICA WOULD BE, AT LEAST FOR THE TERM OF THE GERMAN PRESIDENCY A FIXED AGENDA ITEM.

IN ADDITION, THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS AGREED TO GIVE MORE ATTENTION TO THOSE PARTS OF AFRICA (PARTICULARLY WEST AFRICA) NOT USUALLY DISCUSSED IN THE PAST.
CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT, IN HIS CLOSING PRESS CONFERENCE,
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ALLUDED TO THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS' DECISION WHEN HE NOTED THAT ONE OF THE OBJECTIVES OF THE FRG PRESIDENCY WOULD BE INCREASED ATTENTION TO AFRICA.

5. ACCORDING TO STABREIT THERE WAS LITTLE SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION ON TOPICS OTHER THAN LEBANON, THE MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA. THESE THREE TOPICS WILL BE COVERED IN SEPTELS.

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